



Briar Rose

Kimberly Cates

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Award-winning storyteller Kimberly Cates spins a glorious tale touched with Irish charm.... Rhiannon Fitzgerald never knew her true heritage -- or if her talent for healing was bequeathed by fairy magic, as her father believed. The gentle lass who roamed the hills of Ireland knew only that she must help creatures in need. But her sweet, sheltered world was about to be shaken by an alarming discovery among the mysterious standing stones above the ruins of Ballyaroon. Lying at her feet was wounded Captain Lionel Redmayne, a steely British officer as feared by his own men as by his enemies. Their worlds could not be more different, but something lured these two solitary hearts to find solace in each other's mysterious ways.

With healing herbs and a soothing touch, Rhiannon set out to save Captain Redmayne. But she knew nothing of the risks ahead. In her care was a man who was harmed by a secret assailant; a man who could overwhelm her very soul with his hungry passions. Yet here, too, was the hero promised to her by destiny, whose love was locked in a past of secrets and pain, and in a heart to which she alone held the key....

Briar Rose Details

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Author : Kimberly Cates

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From Reader Review Briar Rose for online ebook

Dee Jay says

A Fairy mother?

An Irish gypsy saves an English Captain and helps him recover from his injuries both current and past.
A well written enjoyable book.

Maqluba says

I don't know much about her newer stories but Kimberly Cates's older works hook me with their unique story lines and strong heroines who save our heroes. I really wish they can be cleaned up just a little and re-published or something because the only thing that bothered me was when it gets to the point where the h&h are in love it becomes so dramatic and the wording becomes so flowery it feels like I'm reading Shakespeare or something. I did chuckle a few times at the hero's cute tendencies to be so contradictory and I loved how the heroine had him wrapped around her finger, even when she didn't know it. I will probably continue to try reading other books by this author, even if I have to skip some sections while reading, because I like her story line that much.

Kathy Brickert says

Lovely tale!

I had read this long ago and enjoyed it as much the second time around! Sweet Irish story where faith in the fairies and love wins every time! Good read!

Darlene A. Ford says

This is the story of the "villainous" Captain Lionel Redmayne who we met in Her Magic Touch. I got this book because I was curious how Kimberly Cates was going to make a hero out of a villain. Wow, who would have thought there was so much hidden in that villainous heart!!!! You will not be disappointed.

Leigh Ann says

a little slow but nice ending!

MaryD says

I have seldom given HR books 5 stars, but this one deserves it.

Captain Lionel Redmayne (introduced in "Her Magic Touch/ Magic", which one really needs to read to appreciate this story) is a British officer whose mission is to suppress Irish rebellion and pride at all costs. Along the way he has made numerous enemies. Someone has led him into an ambush and then left him for dead.

Rhiannon Fitzgerald wanders Ireland, helping injured animals & people alike as she can. She finds the Captain near death and brings him with her to nurse him back to life. Redmayne has no heart and trusts no one. Rhiannon loves freely and sees good in this soul-tortured man.

Excellent writing, excellent revealing of what makes a person the way she/ he is.

Sandy Digger says

Quite good

This is Captain Lionel Redmayne's story. The Captain was in the previous book and was portrayed as a ruthless soldier who shows little to no emotion and threatens the Irish people and their beliefs. When he is fooled into going out to meet an informant (or so he thinks) to find out who is betraying him, he is ambushed and shot twice. He manages to crawl to a circle of standing stones and his assailants can't find him. They leave him for dead but a young woman, living like a gypsy finds him and nurses him back to health. The story then takes a turn when he tries to scare through seduction but finds she is quite willing. Instead of ravishing her he winds up telling her that he is only trying to force her to take him back to his garrison so he can get on with finding out who has betrayed him and who wants him dead. It is a surprising love story that takes you by surprise with all the unexpected twists. Very good!

Catherine Iriarte says

What a difficult story to read even though there were tears of joy in the end.

Regan Walker says

Well-told Love Story between an Irish Coleen and a British Officer--

Set in Ireland, possibly the late 18th or early 19th century (no date is given but it's after the Rebellion of 1798 as it's referred to), this is the story of Rhiannon Fitzgerald, who before her father died, lost their beloved Primrose Cottage to an English landlord. Her father, a barrister, had never been very good at making a living but he loved his daughter and he loved the Irish fairy stories. Before he died, he told Rhiannon her mother was a fairy who had returned to the magical kingdom. Now that she is grown, Rhiannon knows he made those things up to give a young child a good memory of a mother who wasn't there. She lives in a

gypsy wagon with the hurt animals she tends. One day at the standing stones, she comes across a wounded British officer, Captain Lionel Redmayne, who had been fleeing an assassination attempt. Of course, she takes him in and that begins the change in a hardened man whose childhood was full of pain, owing to a cruel, manipulative grandfather.

Cates takes a lot of time developing the emotions that run between Rhiannon and Lion and some of the lower reviews on Amazon reflect the readers' frustration with that occupying so much of the story. A treacherous plot swirls around Lion but for much of the story that is only alluded to. Still, Cates holds our interest even though not much of Ireland's history is given. She does reflect the tension between the Irish and the British soldiers and Lion's regret for his often ruthless actions in the past. For me, this novel had a few themes: the importance of a loving father and the healing power of love, each well presented. I can recommend it.

Jeene Hobbs says

Healing his unfeeling heart

This is a complex story of manipulation, greed, healing, fairy magic, and personal transformation.

It's a solid story with interesting characters. However, it is not a simple read because of the complex, very descriptive style of writing.

Sandra says

Emotionally consuming, with an endearing charm!!

Always love Cates books they are packed full of passion and love yet driven by an ensnaring plot that manages to entangle you so deeply emotionally that you think about it for hours after. Briar Rose was an engaging read that instantly had me championing spirited Rhiannon in her campaign to break through Lion's walls and teach him how to emotionally connect and love. The chemistry, wit and additional characters that either draw you in or make you want to scream, all add to this absorbing read that's enveloped in torment, misunderstandings and an overriding desire to break free from these misconceptions and find happiness that neither hero or heroine deems is in their future or that they are ultimately worthy of. Loved it!!!

Annette says

BRIAR ROSE : is a good read. Our hero, a stiff, unfeeling Captain is nursed by a beautiful young Irishwoman who believes in fairies. A strong story, with a twist.

Vera says

My favorite Kimberly Cates book so far -- while it is a romance novel (historical romance) it develops

around more substantial foundations than many romances. Someone is trying to kill Captain Redmayne and the male and female lead characters' relationship builds around that. There is also the Irish struggle against English occupation and the characters' personal/familial backgrounds also comes into play.

Speaking of Captain Lionel Redmayne - he is a character worthy of more books.

Janice A. says

Good book

I wasn't able to put this book down. I just HAD to see what happened next and I was never disappointed! It is a beautiful love story. At times, it was so funny I had to laugh out loud. Well researched and beautifully written. The only thing I could find wrong with this book is... It ended too soon.
